

Amendment  
Serial No. 10/531,731  
Attorney Docket No. 052474

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Please replace the three original sheets of drawing by the replacement sheets which are identical but of good quality.

REMARKS

By the present amendment, claim 1 has been amended by incorporating therein the subject matter of claim 3. Accordingly, claim 3 has been cancelled and claims 4-6 have been amended to depend on claim 1 instead of claim 3.

Further, claim 1 has been amended to delete the expression “notably petrol” and a new claim 20 dependent on claim 1 has been added for this feature.

Also, method claim 17 has been amended by incorporating therein the subject matter of claim 18 and to recite the method steps more positively by replacing “one implements an ignition system including...” by “the ignition system includes...”, adding (6 lines from the bottom of claim 17) “said method comprising,” replacing “one introduces” and “one causes” by “introducing” and “causing,” and replacing “wherein one lets” (original claim 18) by “comprising letting.” Claims 18-19 have been cancelled.

In addition, new claims 21-22 have been added. Claim 21 corresponds to claim 1 in which the subject matter of claim 16 has been incorporated. Claim 22 corresponds to claim 20 but depends on claim 21.

Claims 1-17 and 20-22 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 17, and 21 are the only independent claims.

In the Office Action, the drawings are objected to regarding line quality.

Replacement drawings are submitted with this paper. Accordingly, it is submitted that the objection should be withdrawn.

Next, in the Office Action, claims 17-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as indefinite.

Claim 17 has been amended to recite the method steps more positively as follows:

- replacing “one implements an ignition system including...” by “the ignition system includes...”, since this clause further defines the ignition system,
- adding (6 lines from the bottom of claim 17) “said method comprising” to initiate the recitation of positive method steps,
- replacing “one introduces” and “one causes” by “introducing” and “causing” so as to clarify the actual method steps in active form, and
- replacing “wherein one lets” (original claim 18) by “comprising letting.”

Further, claims 18-19 have been cancelled.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the rejection should be withdrawn.

Next, in the Office Action, claims 1, 2, 9-10, 12, 14-15, 17, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over US 743,097 to Phail (“Phail”) in view of US 4,091,772 to Heater et al. (“Heater”).

The rejection is respectfully traversed. However, to expedite prosecution of this application, present claim 1 incorporates the features of claim 3, present claim 17 incorporates the subject matter of claim 18, and claim 21 incorporates the subject matter of claim 16. Since

Amendment  
Serial No. 10/531,731  
Attorney Docket No. 052474

claims 3, 18, and 16 are indicated to contain allowable subject matter in the Office Action, it is submitted that the rejection is moot.

In conclusion, the invention as presently claimed is patentable. It is believed that the claims are in allowable condition and a notice to that effect is earnestly requested.

In the event there is, in the Examiner's opinion, any outstanding issue and such issue may be resolved by means of a telephone interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, the Applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of the response period. Please charge the fee for such extension and any other fees which may be required to our Deposit Account No. 502759.

Respectfully submitted,

/nicolas seckel/

---

Nicolas E. Seckel  
Attorney for Applicants  
Reg. No. 44,373

Nicolas E. Seckel  
Patent Attorney  
1250 Connecticut Avenue NW Suite 700  
Washington, DC 20036  
Tel: (202) 669-5169  
Fax: (202) 822-1257  
Customer No.: 29980  
NES/rep